

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled).

4. (Original) A compound consisting of the amino acid sequence Leu-Val-Met-Leu (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein, between the Leu at position 1 and the Val at position 2, the peptide bond, -CO-NH-, is replaced with a hydroxyethylene group, -CHOH-CH₂-, while any other inter amino-acid bond is a peptide bond, wherein the N terminus has an alkyloxycarbonyl group based on C1-10 alkyl that may carry phenyl or naphthyl as a substituent group, wherein the C terminus is converted to an alkyl ester or alkyl amide based on C1-10 alkyl that may carry phenyl or naphthyl as a substituent group, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claims 5-19. (Cancelled).

20. (New) A composition, comprising the compound of claim 4 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.